I. Australian Team Completes "Fly-and-Build" Trip to Myanmar

Posted February 18, 2014 South Pacific Division Record

A team of 19 Australians, led by Pastor Wolfgang Jenke and his wife, Lyn Joy, went on a fly'n'build trip to Myanmar late last year. The purpose of the trip was to build three bathroom/shower blocks for Mountain View Adventist Seminary near Toung. The seminary is directed by Pastor Alvin Hla and currently has 380 students.

Without earthmoving machinery, wheelbarrows, and most of the power-tools taken for granted in modern construction work, the team built all three facilities on time, with the dedicated work of all the students. They did all the earthmoving for each site, helped dig three large septic tanks with 50 meters of leach drain each, carried 6,000 cement blocks to the building sites and mixed the concrete and mortar. The team also learned how to weld and lay blocks.

Each evening, Jenke and pastor Ben Kosmeier ran two evangelistic meetings, which resulted in 76 baptisms on the final Sabbath there. "It was absolutely fantastic. All our thanks goes to God for His enabling grace and protection," said Pastor Jenke.

II. All Asian Potluck (7th Annual FED Reunion Potluck)

Carol Reynolds <carol.byron@gmail.com> Feb. 12:

The 7th Annual Far Eastern Division Reunion Potluck will meet Sabbath, March 1, 2014 at 1:00 pm, Ooltewah, Tenn. SDA Church fellowship hall.

Inviting all past, present, and future Asian missionaries, student missionaries, missionary kids, volunteers, Asian nationals, and anyone interested in God's work in Asia. Please bring generous portions of your favorite Asian foods. If you would like to share a report of current or past missionary work in Asia or for more information, call (423) 987-3936 or email <adventistrefugeeminity@gmail.com>

III. Burma Vignettes -- Early Missionaries #73

Mervin Myat Kyaw <mervinmk@yahoo.com.au> and his wife Nan are Karen Adventists who worked many years in Burma and Thailand and now live and work in Australia. He has written a manuscript covering Adventism in Burma from its very beginning to the present and of his work in Thailand.

#73. Robert H. Dunn (Doctor) Dr. R. H. Dunn arrived in March, 1955. Dr. Dunn served in China, Pakistan and India. Dr. Dunn later became the medical director of Yangon SDA Hospital.

IV. AllAS Inaugurates New Student Tower

from Adventist Review on line, February 12, 2014 by Bruce Sumendap, Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies
While the on-campus student population at the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIIAS), the General Conference school of graduate studies, located close to Manila in the Philippines, has grown in recent years, the average age of students has decreased. Traditionally, the school has accommodated families with children but singles have been underserved.

On February 3, 2014, AIIAS officials addressed this situation with the inauguration of a new student building "Tower O," especially designed for singles and couples without children. The new structure is the fifteenth building on campus.

The four-story building features 14 fully-furnished double-bedroom units, utility rooms, and a student lounge. The lounge, the first of its kind on campus, was added in response to suggestions of students who wanted a place for study and socializing. About 200 guests, faculty, staff, and students attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony. During the thanksgiving program AIIAS leadership expressed appreciation to donors, including the General Conference, Southern Asia-Pacific Division, Northern Asia-Pacific Division, Dr. & Mrs. Gary Hullquist, Dr. & Mrs. Stephen Guptill and Mr. & Mrs. Jim Hippler.

A few days before the inauguration ceremony, construction started on Tower O's twin structure "Tower P," which is expected to be completed in 2014.

V. Adventist Work Opened in New Laos Provinces

"The work of God in Laos has progressed well. People in three new provinces that previously were not entered have now accepted God. We have established an English Language Center in Xieng Khouang Province and are in the process of establish another one in Luang Prabang. Four places of worship were also completed. Four experienced pastors were ordained into ministry.

"As for us here in Laos, we wish to take the gospel message to all 18 provinces of Laos by 2020. As of 2014 there are only four provinces to go.

Please join us in prayer for the Lord of the harvest to send us more workers to do the work and the support needed for His ministries in Laos."

--from the current ASAP Ministries magazine ~~~~~~~~~~ VI. Shepherding Souls in Tai Kadai

--Elizabeth Trust, in February's Adventist Frontier Magazine

"While we are all sheep in God's flock, at time God also calls us to be like shepherds like Moses. In my first year of service I felt like a sheep learning the language and culture of the Tai Kadai. God taught me many lessons of patience and diligence and gave me greater insight into the cares and struggles of the Tai Kadai. Now, in my second year of service, God has begun my 'forty year' training in tending His flock.

"In the classroom God has blessed me with countless opportunities to discuss and share about His love and divine protection with my students. Many of them have ghosts and yearn to know about the God who can protect them from bad spirits. At the church, the youth have asked me to teach them how to give Bible studies so they can share Christ with their friends, and spread the gospel in their home towns. In the community I've had opportunity to visit many of our home-based churches. Just like Acts 6:7. the word of God is spreading and disciples are multiplying among the Tai Kadai. Here are just a few examples of how God's Spirit is moving in this place.

"Just a few weeks ago I received a powerful lesson about caring for His sheep. I had to miss one of our bi-weekly Bible studies with the church youth, and one of the girls came and said to me, Why didn't we have Bible study today? Did you know that there are people coming to my house to study the Bible? I don't know much about the Bible, but everything you teach me, I teach them."

"I couldn't believe what I was hearing! I asked her how often she held the Bible studies, and she said, 'Every day. This is why you need to teach me the Bible, so I can teach them'"

"I am constantly amazed at what God is doing among the Tai Kadai. The Holy Spirit is moving in more hearts than we're able to keep track of.

Surely this is the time to not slumber and to be vigilant in studying the Word. I believe God will finish the Gospel Commission very soon, so please pray that more workers will accept the Isaiah 6:8 call and serve the Tai Kadai. By God's grace, in heaven very soon we will be able to meet the many souls we have been praying for and supporting us to reach."

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VII. Mission Story--China, "Mission Possible"
"Sister Xiang was riding on the train when a women had a health emergency. Another woman hurried to help the sick woman, praying over her and crying. 'You should believe in God.' The woman's words remained with Sister Xiang, even after she left the train.

"She searched for a Christian church and found a house church. There she met Jesus and found a peace and joy she'd never known. But the house church was far from her home, so she organized a house church closer to home and invited people to worship there. She became passionate about sharing God's love with others.

"Then she met some Seventh-day Adventists who showed her from the Bible that the Sabbath was not Sunday but Saturday. She read the Bible texts again and again, until she was convinced that the Sabbath was indeed God's holy day.

"Sister Xiang eagerly told her fellow believers and friends what she had discovered. One by one, they joined her in worshipping on Sabbath. Sister Xiang begged the Adventist church in the nearby city to send them a teacher. The church sent a layman to study with them. They had few Bibles and no hymnals. So they copied Bible texts and songs to use.

"The small group of believers quickly grew to more than the house could hold. They divided and continued to grow. In three years they established five churches and several house churches, all led by Sister Xiang.

"The government ordered Sister Xiang to stop the religious meetings. Day after day, Sister Xiang and another believer went to the government office of religion and prayed silently for permission to worship together. Finally the governor allowed the Adventists to build a church.

"The believers in the area swarmed to help build the church, which was completed in three months. Several daughter house churches continued to meet. Within two years, the believers had built five more churches with congregations from 50 to 500 people.

"Sister Xiang attended lay training classes held in the mother church in the area. Today, with nine churches, nine house churches, and 800 members, she says that the greatest need continues to be for trained lay leaders and lay evangelists to help teach the people in neighboring communities and introduce them to Jesus. 'It's how we grow,' she says. 'They are hungry but they don't know that Jesus can fill their every need. We must tell them.'"

(Sister Xiang shares God's love with people in northern China.)

--from the GC's Office of Adventist Mission ～～～～～～ VIII. SULADS Story -- A Modern Dorcas
by Elvie V. Subigca, Bantoliao Literacy Center

Nanay Susing Habana lived with her husband, Tatay Filemon, in the small village of Bantoliao, the village where we were assigned as SULADS Volunteers. Bantoliao is located at Barangay. Padi-ay, Sibagat, Agusan del Sur. It is a two hour hike from Balonbon Literacy Center, the neighbouring SULADS Literacy Center in the municipality of Sibagat.

Nanay Susing was known for her kindness and generosity. People in the village liked her very much. Whenever needed, she would offer and give what she had even if it was her last. She would always say, "You need it more. I can manage. I will just look for another one." Every day, children came to her house, eating the food that Nanay Susing prepared for them. Nanay Susing and Tatay Filemon were childless and they treated these children as their own. I would often see their house filled with joy because of these children coming to their house.

One day, I noticed that children weren't going to their house anymore. I thought Nanay and Tatay had gone somewhere so I did not bother to ask the village people. Days passed and still I did not see Nanay Susing coming out of her house. I only saw Tatay Filemon leave their house in the morning and get back at noon or in the afternoon.

My husband and I began to wonder what happened to Nanay Susing. One day, an 8-year old girl came to our house and told us that Nanay Susing was sick. She could not swallow her food. The child told us that the village people were afraid that she might die soon because of her present condition.

Hearing this, I quickly got medicine from our medicine box, biscuits from our stock for my children, and prepared a glass of milk and brought it all to Nanay's house. When I arrived at her house, I saw the pale, thin, and sick body of Nanay. I offered her the glass of milk and the biscuits that I brought hoping she could swallow those before I could give her the medicine.

She was happy to see me. She told me that no one from her relatives visited to take care of her. It was only her husband and a few children that came to their house that took care of her during these two weeks of being sick. "If it were not for these children, Ma'am, I don't know what would have happened to me. I don't know where my relatives are and why they are not able to visit me here. Maybe they don't love me anymore," she said with tears in her eyes. Nanay Susing was coughing and was having difficulty breathing. She could not sleep well at night because of her cough. Nobody except her husband and a few children took care of her and it made her feel unwanted which made her condition worse.
I was moved by Nanay Susing's condition. I offered to give her a massage to soothe her and make her breathing easier. We prayed after I massaged her.

After we prayed, I prayed silently to God to heal her and make her recover from her present condition.

Tatay Filemon arrived from work and saw me taking care of Nanay. He was thankful for my visit and for taking care of Nanay and bringing her something to eat. I went home after I gave her the medicine.

On my way home, I told the village people that I visited Nanay in her house so that she could feel that we still love her and need her to be with us. Every day after that, people came to visit her. Sooner than we expected, Nanay was well again.

One morning, Nanay came to our house and told me a dream that she had just a few minutes before I came to her house. According to her, there was a doctor wearing a white gown and with that doctor was my husband. They operated on her. She no longer felt pain after her operation. Then she was awakened. After few minutes, I arrived.

Nanay Susing has now fully recovered her health. She again started to help the people and feed the children just like what Dorcas did after she was raised from the dead. Nanay Susing and Tatay Filemon are now happy and continuing to serve the Lord in every way that they know.

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